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MARY ELLEN GIAMPAOLI

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MS. GIAMPAOLI: My name is Mary Ellen Giampaoli and I am speaking this evening on behalf of Mr. Les Bradshaw, the manager of the Nye County Department of Natural Resources and Federal Facilities. Nye County, as you may be aware, is the host county for this proposed repository project should the program be forward.

For the record, I would like to state that Nye County has been neutral through this entire process; that is, we neither support nor oppose the repository program and siting of the repository in Nye County. Primarily this is because we recognize that Nye County has no role in the decision process here and no voice in the outcome. Therefore, it's Nye County's role to protect the health and safety of its residents and to perform its technical and scientific oversight responsibility as required by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

My comments this evening are very brief as Nye County has already commented in other public hearings and will be submitting extensive comments by the close of the public comment period. We would simply like to note Clark County's earlier concerns with regard to transportation of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste. Nye County as the situs county shares many of those concerns.

As the terminal point for all waste shipments to the proposed repository, Nye County has significant concerns regarding all proposed and alternative routes and modes of transportation through its towns and communities.

For these reasons, Nye County has publicly stated and now reiterates its preference for the Chalk Mountain route or other alternative routes across public restricted access lands operated by the Federal Government where the risks associated with transportation would be borne by the Federal Government and its agencies rather than by the citizens of Nye County and the State of Nevada. | Thank you.